

From: Russell C. Hess
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/17/02 5:23pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I would like to voice my opposition to the proposed settlement with Microsoft. Allowing them to pay their fines in their own products only enables them to further restrict the market they operate in. It is unfair to put our public schools in the position of having to choose what they may consider to be an inferior product because they are free. Perhaps making Microsoft pay their fines in cash and establish an endowment that would make grants annually to schools in need to buy whatever technology products they desire would be a better solution. I believe to allow Microsoft to get away with a plea bargain that essentially strengthens their monopoly is foolish. The Justice Department should make an example of them. Breaking the law is breaking the law.

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